

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:204
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2010
INDO-US GROUP ON TERRORISM
Reddy Shri Mekapati Rajamohan

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of times the Indo-US Joint Working Group on counter terrorism set up in January, 2000 met so far;
- (b) the details of the deliberations of each meeting;
- (c) the follow-up action taken thereon;
- (d) whether a meeting of the Group was held recently; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA)

- (a): The India-US Joint Working Group (JWG) on counter-terrorism, established in January 2000, has met eleven times so far.
- (b) & (c): The JWG was established to promote understanding and cooperation with the United States on combating terrorism. Our engagement with the United States through the mechanism of JWG has increased mutual understanding on the problem of terrorism, including the nature and source of terrorism emanating from India's neighbourhood, strengthened bilateral cooperation and enhanced capacity building in India in counter terrorism.
- (d) & (e): The India-US JWG on Counter-terrorism last met in June 2009 in Washington DC. The meeting provided an opportunity for the two Governments to review progress in bilateral engagement, including on the terrorist attack in Mumbai in November 2008, and identify new areas of capacity building and operational cooperation. The two Governments have signed a Counter-terrorism Cooperation Initiative in July 2010.